



# Great Basin Critical Incident Peer Support

## Peer Support Group Leader



### Critical Incident Peer Support Group Leader

Like a Peer Supporter/Person of Equal Respect, a Great Basin Peer Support Group Leader is a highly respected and trusted fire person from all aspects of national fire programs (dispatchers, engine crew members, hotshot and other crews, helitack, smokejumpers and many other specialties). The only difference between a Peer Supporter and a Group Lead is depth of experience. A Group Lead has participated in numerous assignments as a Peer Supporter and has had enough exposure to various incidents and contacts they are able to act as a "Crew Boss" for the peer support group.

GB Critical Incident Peer Support Group Leaders are required to keep confidences, committed to the program, willing to adhere to established limits and protocols, aware of their boundaries, and trained to seek guidance and assistance when appropriate. As Leaders, they are held to a high standard and must demonstrate respect and integrity for what crisis intervention is....and is not.

### Group Leader Specific Duties

- Successful completion of the International Critical Incident Support Fountain Basic Peer and Group Support course.
- Function as the liaison between the local unit and the peer support group.
- Provide the team members with reporting times, lodging and meeting locations.
- Coordinate with Clinician(s) in facilitating the Crisis Management Briefings, Defusings, Debriefings, etc.
- Briefing the Clinician as to what our expectations are for the meetings and travel.
- Allocate peer supporters based on background and culture.
- Coordinate with the group daily when the group is in multiple locations.
- Incident Business Management duties such as approving time, monitoring work/rest, and driving hours.
- Keep the coordinator informed as to the status of the assignment.
- Demobilization of resources and providing travel information Coordinator/Point of Contact.

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*Peer Support Personnel are both firefighters and volunteers. Both of these are important concepts, and one that must be understood by all those interested in working within the program; the success and credibility of the program depend on it. Those impacted by a traumatic/critical incident may find it difficult to open up and express themselves to those who they do not trust and respect.*

*Peers who are trustworthy and well respected are the key element in assisting individuals dealing with existing and potential stress symptoms.*

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